



BENTRIM BUGLE

The official newsletter of the MMBA - Issue #78 - winter 07



*Annual meeting info
pages 11-12*



DEDACCIAT COM 12.5 CROMOLY BUTTED FRAME
 KONA P2 FORK • FLIP FLOP REAR HUB/16T FIXED AND 16T FREEWHEEL
 CONTINENTAL ULTRASPORT 700 X 28C TIRES • WTB ROCKET V COMP SADDLE

our own paddy white designed this bike with a buddhist point of view.

kona-world.com



The Michigan Mountain Biking Association (MMBA) is a 501-(C)(3) non-profit organization. We have 2,600 members in nine chapters throughout Michigan. The mission of the MMBA is to promote responsible mountain biking and to work toward the goals of common land access and natural resource protection through interaction with policy makers, the cycling industry, race promoters, mountain bikers and other trail users.

The Bent Rim Bugle is published four times a year (March, June, Sept, Dec.) by the Michigan Mountain Biking Association and distributed to all members. It is made possible by volunteers and riders like you.

Bent Rim Bugle

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Visit the MMBA on the web at:
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New BRB Logo/Masthead by
Scott Zelazny
Cover photo by Bryan Mitchell

From the MMBA President: Pat Audet

As we close out 2006 I would like to take a moment to reflect on how we did last year and thank a few people whose efforts made it possible. 2006 was another great year of volunteers putting in huge amounts of time and efforts on our trails doing reroutes, new trail and general maintenance. This is where the 'rubber hits the road' and it speaks volumes for how dedicated and interested each of you are in our trails. From the MMBA leadership, we all give you a hearty Thank You!!! Without your efforts, the trails we ride would probably not be possible. We truly appreciate your efforts.

I think a special Thank You should also go out to the Mt. Bike Patrol. I have seen them in action this year and each of them deserve a hearty Thumbs Up!

The chapters are where the action is, and they have all been doing a great job. All the maintenance, special events and racing that goes on over the summer takes a LOT of time and this is where a lot of the coordination happens. Whether working with land managers or scouting reroutes and new trail, there is a lot of time and effort that goes into the day to day efforts and I think we all appreciate their work. The Trail Coordinators also deserve a lot of credit as they are the ones that work directly with the land manager to get things done. Sometimes easy, often challenging, this is also where we directly engage the land managers and they are all doing a great job.

We are rezoning the South East and Pontiac chapters into two new, more evenly distributed chapters. Nick Shue, and Jody DeLavern, have put a lot of time and effort into helping make that happen smoothly.

On the racing scene, we had another good year that, again, would not be possible without the volunteers that help make it happen. Whether they are run by promoters or the MMBA, they still rely heavily on you to volunteer your time to help make them safe and successful. Trail and chapter events continued to be popular. The mix this year included long standing traditions such as Ft Custer, some new races at popular trails like Maybury, and one that was definitely a hoot!, the Tree Farm Team Relay.

At a MMBA board level, we completed our Strategic Plan and starting in January, we will begin putting that plan in action. The homework for that exercise was very enlightening. I think the survey we did over the summer was a wonderful tool and I'd like to thank Todd Grant for suggesting that. Cris Cataldo and Nick Shue put a lot of effort into forming that plan. Cris especially put in a lot of hours and effort to get that plan in shape. It is not a lot of fun, but it is necessary.

Dan Harrison! We were awarded a \$20,000 grant from our good friends at REI in Dan's name for his years of work as an Environmental Steward. This is a landmark event! We plan to use this money to set up an endowment so that this gift can continue to benefit the MMBA forever. Bill Mayer has worked hard to research this effort. Thanks Bill!

Our Treasurer Joe Solecki has put in TREMENDOUS amount of effort getting our new financial system in order. Converting from our old system to the new one is no small task and Joe deserves a huge thank you for taking this on.

Continued on page 6

MMBA NEWS

From the desk of Executive Director - Todd Scott

DNR Funding Crisis

"In terms of the Park Improvement Fund, the deficit is \$400,000 in fiscal year 2008; it grows to \$6.8 million in 2009. This deficit grows as a result of inflationary impacts and flat revenues." Becky Humphries, DNR Director.

This is gloomy news for all state park users. The DNR cannot run deficits and there either needs to be increased revenues or drastically cut expenses (e.g. closed parks.)

As mentioned previously, DNR state parks don't receive any taxpayer support. Roughly speaking, campers cover two-thirds of the budget costs while annual and daily park pass sales cover the remainder.

And to make matters worse, recent spikes in gas prices have led to reductions in camping revenues for 2006.

But perhaps the worst news is that as of our publication deadline, the state legislature has yet to approve a bill allowing the DNR to sell park passes in 2007. The Governor has said she expects to sign the bill, but that doesn't help much if the House doesn't pass the bill.

State Parks are not the only DNR division facing a funding crisis. The Wildlife division has faced years of declining hunting and fishing licenses sales. Our State Forest Recreation Fund is meagerly funded by campers. Trail users, including mountain bikers currently don't contribute to either.

While some in the hunting and fishing groups have proposed trail user passes, the DNR doesn't favor the idea for numerous reasons, including: it won't generate enough money to right the DNR finances; State forests and game areas are un-staffed and lack enforcement staff; and it's often difficult to know when you're on the 3.9 million acres of state forest land or not -- it's not all marked.

The MMBA is staying very involved in this process. We do not want to see state park closures. We want to see additional funding for the state forest recreation fund so we can enhance and expand our forest pathways.

The next step is we will be meeting with other DNR stakeholder groups in January to get everyone at the table and start working towards a permanent solution. We'll keep you posted.

Rockport Rocks!

Do you crave East Coast style singletrack with roots and rocks, but don't have time to drive to the Upper Peninsula? The solution in the future might be in Alpena.

I recently visited the DNR 4,300 acre Rockport property just north of Alpena. This terrain looked just like it was transported from New England with exposed rock, roots, and no sand except along the shoreline. While there are no big elevation changes on the property, the terrain is very interesting. There's also an abandoned limestone quarry and sinkholes. The geology is the same as Drummond Island.

What's interesting is I was on the nearby Norway Ridge trail just south of Alpena that quite sandy and completely different.

The potential for very technically advanced singletrack trails at Rockport is great.

Recently our Citizen's Committee for Michigan State Parks recommended the land go through the DNR management process. The DNR has since received grant funding to begin planning. After that we can propose trail construction. The only bump in the trail is this land has a lot of local use issues that need to be resolved first.

For now anyone can ride the existing very narrow two-track, but beware of ORV ruts.

Bikers on NPR

In October, National Public Radio (NPR) aired a segment on mountain biking and really shed a very positive light on us. IMBA is prominently featured in the segment. According to the NPR story, "Just a few years ago mountain bikers were considered a menace by hikers and environmentalists. But the view is changing."

You can listen to the audio on-line at <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=6397280>

Election Outcome

Hopefully everyone had an opportunity to cast their vote in the November's elections. The question now is how might the outcome affect the MMBA and cycling in Michigan.

With Democrats taking Congress, Congressman Knollen-

berg is no longer chair of the Appropriations sub-committee on Transportation. The MMBA has a good working relationship with the Congressman and he's been a trails supporter.

On the positive side, Rep. James Oberstar of Minnesota is now the chair of the Transportation and Infrastructure committee. Oberstar is one of the biggest cycling supporters in Washington DC and was the primary sponsor for the Safe Routes to School program.

I'm not sure how a Democrat-controlled State House affects us yet. We'll know more once the committee assignments are announced.

State Senators Birkholz and McManus won easily. Both have been major supporters of parks and cycling. Senator Birkholz is returning as chair of the Senate Natural Resource committee.

Mountain bikers and State Rep's Ed Clemente and Daniel Acciavatti were both re-elected to the House. Andy Levin who used to mountain bike before starting a family lost a close battle for a seat in the State Senate.

State Senator Mike Bishop was re-elected and is the new Senate majority leader. This is huge. The MMBA's been working closely with the Senator since he was in the House. He's also been one of the biggest trail supporters in Lansing.

State Rep. Bob Gosselin was term limited but won a seat on the Oakland County Commission. We worked with Bob in the past on trails in Rochester and he said he'd like to do more.

Rochester Hills and Oakland Township both passed trail millages. A portion of Rochester Hills' millage will go towards surfacing the Clinton River Trail.

Representing MTBs

We'd like to thank those who have attended planning meetings with land agencies across Michigan. This is really one of the best ways to get mountain biking and trails initiated at parks. I was told by the Metroparks planner that mountain bikers attending their recent meetings had a major impact.

Boy Scouts discussing new mtb trail

The MMBA has been meeting with the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Detroit-Area Council about creating a mountain bike trail at their Cole Canoe Base near Rose City. This fall Jim Crissman of the Northeast Chapter and I were given a riding tour the existing camp trails. There's plenty of land and the terrain could lead to some very cool trail.

Jim also gave a brief slideshow overview of the Eagle Scout project and other portions of the Midland City Forest.

The next step is they are discussing the proposal with other groups within the BSA-DAC. There are two components: the trail and the programs that would use the trail.

We're also discussing how a joint MMBA-BSA partnership would work. Could we provide trail volunteers and leadership in exchange for having access to the trails? (Not unlike Owasisippe).

It's fair to say that Jim and I are pretty excited about the potential, not only for new trail, but to introduce generations of Scouts to mountain biking and trail construction.

RIF/RTP Trail Grants announced

RIF/RTP grants come from a portion of the state and federal gas taxes. The grants are spent for trails on DNR land. Here are some highlights from the 2006-2007 list of trail projects recommended and approved for funding.

On State Forest land:

* Grand Traverse & Benzie Counties: Provide new pathway trail between two existing trails - Lake Ann Pathway and Lost Lakes Pathway, for hiking, mountain biking, cross country skiing, as well as enhanced interpreting potential.

* Osceola County: Renovate 100 year old railroad trestle over the Muskegon River on the Pere Marquette Trail.

* GPS all state forest pathways, walking trails under FMFM's management. Use collected data to develop location and trails maps for each facility to be displayed on the DNR's web site.

Within State Parks:

1. \$100,000 for maintenance on Lakelands, Hart-Montague, and Fred Meijer White Pine trail. This money will be used to provide assistance to the local units of government and non-profit partners. Funding will also be used to allow PRD staff to conduct repairs to linear trails.
2. \$11,000 to complete engineering study, preliminary design and permitting for trail connections - Bald Mountain, Paint Creek, M-24 safety paths.
3. \$85,000 to upgrade and improve Andersen Trail (Bay City).
4. \$65,000 to complete engineering study for bridges for Kamikaze and US-41 trails (Ft. Wilkins).
5. \$238,000 to complete construction of boardwalk along Big Sable River and ADA walkway (Ludington).
6. \$183,000 for final engineering and construction to connect state park trail system at Sterling to City of Monroe's trail system.
7. \$28,500 for engineering study and design for the con-

version of and existing loop trail to a universally accessible interpretive trail (Port Crescent).

8. \$11,000 for grooming and maintaining designated cross country ski trail (Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park).

9. \$20,000 to complete an engineering study for Presque Isle Suspension Bridge (Porcupine Mountains State Park).

10. \$50,000 for trail signage at multiple State Parks.

Some disappointing news

While DNR Parks submitted 16 grant applications, only 10 were funded. The \$25,000 grant we had sought to expand the Beck Road parking lot for mountain bikers at Maybury did not make the cut. We are looking at alternative funding sources.

Making the Stubway trails legit near Midland

Recently the MMBA met with the DNR to discuss the Stubway trails within the Au Sable State Forest northwest of Midland. The Stubway is not an official state forest path-way and was never approved by the DNR. There are many concerns but foremost is the trail's design and how it's causing environmental impact through some wetland areas.

After much discussion, the DNR asked us to create a formal proposal for making the Stubway an official trail which is properly designed, requires minimal maintenance and avoids the wet, sensitive areas of the state forest. We agreed to do that.

The MMBA Northeast Chapter will be working on the proposal with the local DNR to make sure we have a win-win solution. We want to make sure our official trail provides enough distance (20-30 miles) and challenge so that there will not be anymore illegal trail building. We're also looking at including the Black Creek campground (one of the nicest state forest campgrounds I've seen). Eventually we'll work with M-DOT to propose a connector trail across US-10 to the thirteen miles of trail Pine Haven.

If you're interested in helping out, please contact Jeff Adamcik, northeast@mmba.org

North Country Trail

It was recently noted that a new North Country Trail brochure for the Northern Lower Peninsula states: "The Harbor Springs Chapter of the NCTA, and the DNR do not recommend any wheeled vehicles or snowmobiles on the trail from Sturgeon Bay to Mackinaw City."

We spoke with DNR state forest staff and they do not make such a recommendation. The only state forest pathways they don't recommend biking on are the two that are closed to biking: the Jordan River Valley and Mason Tract. And according to the Wilderness State Park Unit Supervi-

sor, "I don't feel that the statement on NCT maps accurately represents our position. I think we need to let the trail users know that there may be difficult and closed areas, but I certainly don't want to discourage such use of the park in the designated areas."

On a similar note, the Wilderness State Park is looking to form a Friends group. If you are interested in participating, contact Richard Hill Jr. at (231)436-5381.

Stony's 10th Anniversary

From a 1997 Romeo Observer article: "The explosive popularity of mountain biking in the 1990s is starting to take its toll on the cross-country skiing trails at Stony Creek Metropark. In response, bikers from the MMBA have taken the initiative to help with the trail maintenance before mountain bikes are prohibited."

Back then, Peg Gutmann led the Southeast Chapter in designating, designing, and building new trails at Stony. Most of the Rollercoaster singletrack was built in 1998.

And we've kept our commitment to those trails. The most recent Metroparks Biennial Report says, "At Stony Creek Metropark, the MMBA buys materials and performs about 90% of the maintenance on the mountain bike trails."

New Trails Guy

We welcome Chris Loudenslager as the new trails coordinator for the Huron-Manistee National Forest Baldwin District. Chris is responsible for all trails within the Baldwin District, including the North Country Trail.

Fishing + Biking

Pere Marquette River Lodge in Baldwin is our newest MMBA Silver Sponsor. Their web site is <http://www.pmlodge.com/>

Give these guys a call if you want to combine two of Michigan's most *renowned* sports: fly fishing and mountain biking. Fishing in the Pere Marquette is great, while the NCT and Big-M are nearby. If you've never gone fly fishing before, you can get a guide from the lodge and rent the gear.

After a long ride or race, there's nothing better than standing in cool river water. And while you're standing there, you might as well try to land some fish.

Happy 17th, MMBA!

The MMBA was officially born in January of 1990 when articles of incorporation were signed at the Post Bar in Detroit. This is according to John Dohan, who had drawn up the paperwork and has since relocated to Charlotte, North Carolina.



BUILD



RIDE



RESPECT



SPEAK



**INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN
BICYCLING ASSOCIATION**



Photo by Jim Crissman

(L-R): Todd Scott, Fred Synk, and Jerry Freyberg "scout" a potential mountain bike trail along the Rifle River at the Boy Scouts Cole Canoe Base north of Midland.

DNR FUNDING

A recent report from the hunting and fishing license workgroup developed the following recommendations for funding the DNR: "To get beyond the almost total reliance on user fees from a sub-set of outdoor recreationists and beneficiaries of conservation programs, the ultimate need is for a long-term major conservation funding source that acknowledges the benefits of stewardship, outdoor recreation and public lands to Michigan's quality of life, economy, positive image, culture, environment and the health of the people. Such a source needs to meet the following criteria:

- Generate sufficient revenue
- Rise with inflation
- Provide relatively steady source of funding
- Support by the broadest spectrum of public, including non-residents
- Long-lived
- Inexpensive to administer
- Fund conservation programs that have benefits to citizens and visitors

Continued from page 2 , president.

We continue to have a strong influence in Lansing and with other organizations we partner with. When people want to know about fun, sustainable trail design and construction, they think of the MMBA. We have received several requests to help design trails this year and that shows that we are highly regarded in this area around the state. We also continue to have great relationships with various local governments, such as the city of Novi and the Oakland County Parks. Good relationships with all these local governments are vital to our continued access to land and growth as an organization.

We continue to be engaged with the DNR at various levels and grow our relationships in this area. These relationships are vital in order to continue our access to land and other resources. Todd Scott has worked hard to keep the MMBA involved at various levels. His passion for the MMBA and advocacy should never be underestimated. He is a vital cog in our machine.

2006 was another very good year for the MMBA. It was all due to the hard work put forth by YOU, the MMBA membership. I look forward to seeing you all in 2007!

Trust Fund Grants Announced

The Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund is Michigan's primary funding source for parkland and trail acquisition. And, a portion of this funding is spent developing parks and trails. Local communities, counties, the Metroparks, DNR, and others apply for these funding and it's very competitive.

The money comes from royalties on oil and gas wells on state-owned land.

The 2006 grants were just announced: \$27.8 million for land acquisition and another \$8.3 million for development.

MMBA'S SUPPORTING ROLE

The MMBA has become more and more involved in helping applicants get their grant money. We've written numerous letters of support for projects that benefit mountain bikers. This year we helped St. Clair County Parks (new MTB trails), the Metroparks (Kensington to Milford trail) and Oakland County Parks (Bald Mountain to Addison trail). Many grant applicants

ADDISON OAKS CONNECTOR

I just spoke with Oakland County Parks and they're very disappointed that this trail connector barely missed the funding cut-off. That said, the letters MMBA members sent in from the Addison Oaks races were "well received." In fact, Oakland County Parks plans on doing something similar for other grant applications in the future.

They do plan on resubmitting the grant request for next year with a few tweaks. In the meantime we proposed building a temporary singletrack alternative that would at least connect Bald Mountain and Addison Oaks. They are interested and we will be discussing our brief proposal in the near future.

GRANT HIGHLIGHTS

- **Belle River Property Acquisition** St. Clair County \$1,408,000 Acquisition of 300 acres with 1.5 miles of Belle River frontage for future development as a passive county park.
- **State Trailways Acquisition Initiative** \$1,500,000 Acquisition of approximately 220 miles of rail corridor in the upper and lower peninsulas.
- **Grand Ledge Riverwalk** Eaton County \$192,100 2,500 linear foot extension of the Grand Ledge Riverwalk, connecting multiple parks, improving fishing access, and providing access to 5 acres of riparian wetlands along the Grand River in downtown Grand Ledge.
- **Milford to Kensington Metropark Trail** Oakland County \$400,000 Development of approximately 2.9-mile non-motorized trail through Kensington Metropark to Milford Dam.
- **Iron Industry Museum Interpretive Trail System** Marquette County \$261,600 Development of a two mile non-motorized interpretive trail system along the Carp River including scenic and historical overlooks and informational kiosks.
- **Lake Lansing Trail** Ingham County \$358,300 Development of 2.5 mile pathway and accessible fishing pier providing access to Lake Lansing, Lake Lansing South County Park, Meridian Township parks, and natural areas. Future connector will connect to Lansing River Trail at Michigan State University.
- **Rogue River Trail Network Extension - Peppler Park** Kent County \$222,700 1,600 foot boardwalk and bituminous extension of the Rouge River Trail Network through Peppler Park in downtown Rockford.
- **Sanford Lake Park Improvements** Midland County \$235,900 Improvements to Sanford Lake Park to include pavilions, restrooms, rail/trail connector and play structure.
- **Hubbell Hubbell Pond Park Non-Motorized Trail** Oakland County \$297,000 Development of a one mile, 10-foot wide paved trail from Milford Dam north through Hubbell Pond Park.

The Twenty-thousand Dollar Man

Our own Dan Harrison has won a prestigious 2006 REI Stewards of the Environment Award. There were only eight award winners nationwide.

Everyone in the MMBA who has known Dan or worked with him knows how much he is deserving of such recognition. Dan has been incredibly active within the MMBA, as a trail worker, mountain kids volunteer, bike patroller, MMBA president, and founder of the MMBA/REI Trail Building School. We are absolutely thrilled that REI is helping others share in this recognition.

As a result of this award, REI presented the MMBA with a \$20,000 check at Maybury State Park in November.

There's been much discussion on how to best spend the \$20,000 grant. At this time, it will likely be placed in an endowment and serve as an MMBA funding source in perpetuity.

We owe a huge thanks to REI and Dan for helping make trails in Michigan something we can all be proud of.



Photo by Bryan Mitchell/mountainbikephotographer.com

New BRB editor taking over.

Ok I have been putting the BRB together for to long now, over five years, and its time to pass it on. And even though its fun to do and not real hard the task keeps moving further down my to-do list and I seem to get it to the printer later every issue.

So Hans Nyberg has offered to become the new editor. I would like to think I left the BRB looking better then when I started but I know with his visual background Hans will make it look even better!

Of course I will still send him photos to use in the BRB; although he takes some nice photographs himself while shooting his great video at MMBA events. So if you are interested in writing something for the BRB help Hans out and send it in to brb@mmba.org.

Fun, interesting feature stories are really needed. And ladies more stories from a women's point-of-view would be great!

And remember to keep any photos you send BIG and please do not imbed photos in documents, just JPG's as email attachments work best. See you on trail! -Bryan Mitchell



Photo by Chris Filipiak

One of my favorite things to do lately is riding at Ray's in Cleveland. FYI I only used a photo of myself so I wouldn't have to write as much. I really don't like writing! -Bryan

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**We are proud to help
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Downtown South Lyon**

Monday - Friday 10:00 - 7:00 Saturday 10:00-5:00

248-437-0500

MMBA



2007

C.P.S.

Championship Point Series

Watch for the
spring BRB in
late March for
more exciting
CPS news!



2007 MMBA Championship Point Series Schedule

Mark your calendars now.....don't miss Michigan's premier grassroots racing series! We are pleased to announce the 2007 MMBA Championship Point Series schedule:

Sunday, April 22nd
Yankee Springs Chapter Benefit – TT

Sunday, May 6th
Fort Custer Stampede Chapter Benefit –XC

Sunday, June 3rd
Hanson Hills Challenge - XC

Saturday, July 7th
Boyne Challenge – Marathon XC
Double rider points will be awarded!

Sunday, July 29th
Stony Creek - TT

Saturday, August 25th
Maybury Chapter Benefit – XC

Sunday, September 23rd
Addison Oaks Fall Classic - XC

Sunday, September 30th
Pando Challenge – XC
20th Anniversary Race!

You'll need five races to qualify for the annual Series award and your best five races count toward your overall Series rankings.

We're bringing back your favorite trails and shaking things up a bit more in 2007.....so come out and have fun with us! Bring your family, your friends and race to have a good time, support the MMBA and your local trails.

Our primary goal is to bring the value of the MMBA CPS – back to the racers, their families and back to the trail. To this end the 2007 race schedule will continue to help raise much needed funds for trail advocacy. Money generated by the Chapter Benefits will directly fund ongoing MMBA advocacy work and trail improvements.

2006 Final results

Top 3 in each class - Elite & Expert

Elite Open		
1	1280	John Meyers
2	1224	Robert Herriman
3	992	Bill Clikeman

Expert Women		
1	476	Heidi Halbert
2	472	Karey Collins
3	364	Linda Moran

Expert Men -18		
1	628	Kyle Stange
2	548	Brent Steinberg
3	408	Mike Anderson

Expert Men 19-29		
1	520	Shawn Meredith
2	388	Randall Zajac

Expert Men 30-39		
1	644	Tom Glover
2	552	Paul Borden
3	472	Mark Todd

Expert Men 40+		
1	704	Tim Collins
2	616	Greg Bower
3	568	Tim Curtis

Single Speed		
1	792	Niel Scharphorn
2	480	Patrick Szubielak
3	416	Robin Scurr

2006 Final results

Top 3 in each class - Sport

Sport Clydesdale		
1	328	Ross McCloskey
2	324	Joseph Gilbert
3	322	Dennis Bauer
Sport Women -29		
1	282	Rebecca Wissman
2	192	Rachelle West
3	148	Lily Wissman
Sport Women 30+		
1	316	Tracy Walker
2	232	Janet Fender
3	194	Janet Grimm
Sport Men 15-18		
1	338	Cody Stange
2	232	Trevor Moore
Sport Men 19-29		
1	428	Josh Harville
2	334	Matt Verona
3	206	Dominic Couturier
Sport Men 30-34		
1	320	Matt Wolanzyk
2	300	Jeff Socia
3	292	Scott Gissendaner
Sport Men 35-39		
1	426	Earl Adams
2	352	Jim Hilditch
3	258	Tod Horner
Sport Men 40-44		
1	342	Neil Wagner
2	302	Mike Belanger
3	198	Kevin Kahl
Sport Men 45-49		
1	382	Rusty Trapp
2	314	Pete Colan
3	314	Dennis Gustafson
Sport Men 50+		
1	434	Steve Kinley
2	374	Bill Lindhout
3	342	Clark Hogan
Tandem		
1	180	Joel Miller

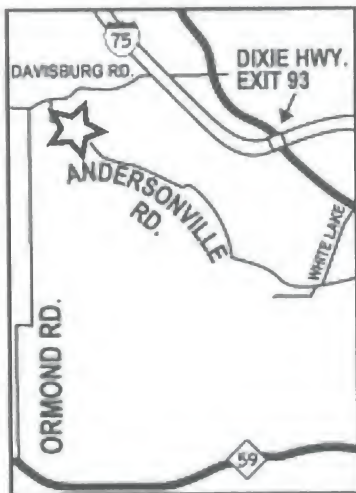
2006 Final results

Top 3 in each class - Beginner

Beginner Clydesdale		
1	139	Justin Knorr
Beginner Women -14		
1	145	Michelle Walters
2	126	Michelle Wittbrodt
3	101	Ginger Wissman
Beginner Women 15-29		
1	84	Chrstina Fiedler
Beginner Women 30+		
1	191	Beth Ann Trollman
2	163	Jackie Werth
3	122	Jean Steinberg
Beginner -10		
1	129	Kara Browder
2	79	Oliver Wissman
Beginner Men 15-18		
1	119	Zachary Kadykowski
Beginner Men 19-29		
1	252	Mike Peterson
2	192	Mark Parmelee
3	171	Nolan Marcus
Beginner Men 30-34		
1	189	Jason Bigelow
2	161	David Russell Moore Jr.
Beginner Men 35-39		
1	177	Michael A. Groat
2	147	Scott Keller
3	76	Rob Scoville
Beginner Men 40-49		
1	222	Daniel Henshaw
2	180	Patrick Bagi
3	160	Wayne Heuwagen
Beginner Men 50+		
1	140	Niel Scharphorn Sr
2	138	Mike Kloeckner
3	121	Scott Gardner



2007 BIKE EXPO & SWAP



SPRINGFIELD OAKS COUNTY PARK

12451 ANDERSONVILLE ROAD IN DAVISBURG

WWW.OAKGOV.COM/PARKSREC/PPARK/SPRINGFIELD.HTML

PHONE: 248.634.7899

FROM I-75: TAKE EXIT 93.

TAKE DIXIE HIGHWAY NORTH.

TURN LEFT ON DAVISBURG ROAD.

TURN LEFT ON ANDERSONVILLE ROAD.

EVENT SCHEDULE

- 9 AM GROUP RIDE AT PONTIAC LAKE
- 10 AM EXPO & SWAP OPENS
- 11 AM IMBA TRAILS WORKSHOP
- 1 PM MEETING PORTION BEGINS
 - GARY FISHER Q & A
 - MMBA VOLUNTEER AWARDS
 - MMBA CPS RACE AWARDS
- 4 PM MEETING ENDS

SWAP TABLES ARE AVAILABLE ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS FOR A \$10 DONATION TO THE MMBA.

LODGING IS AVAILABLE AT THE HOLIDAY INN SELECT IN NEARBY AUBURN HILLS. FOR RESERVATIONS, CALL (248) 373-4550 AND MENTION THE MMBA.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS AT
WWW.MMBA.ORG





2007 BIKE EXPO & SWAP

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH
AT SPRINGFIELD OAKS COUNTY PARK
(JUST NORTHWEST OF PONTIAC LAKE)

FREE ADMISSION, DOORS OPEN AT 10 AM

WITH SPECIAL GUEST **GARY FISHER**

PRESENTED BY TREK BICYCLES AND
AMERICAN CYCLE & FITNESS



MICHIGAN MOUNTAIN BIKING ASSOCIATION

FOR DETAILS AND DRIVING DIRECTIONS
VISIT WWW.MMBA.ORG



Iceman Cometh 2006

photography by Bryan Mitchell/mountainbikephotographer.com



The next big star!



Pro winners Mike Simonson and Kelli Emmett.



Edward Schnick from Greenville Michigan pushes up the "oh Sh*t" climb along with other beginner racers.



Rob Mitzel warms up before the race start.



A racer is cheered on.

Team Sandbag

"We make bicycling fun!"

Team Sandbag was started in January 2005 to promote and support bicycle racing and "just for fun" riding. The Team is really dedicated to assisting all those that wish to get more active in the world of bicycling.

There are currently 42 team members including kids and families. Twenty-five of those team members also belong to the MMBA's Holly/Flint Chapter. That's huge!

Team Sandbag goals is to attract a different type of racer – those that realize there's more to racing than showing up on race day and going fast. Of course that doesn't mean they're slouches on the race course either.

The team has a strong presence in the community and really gives back to the sport. One of the Team's greatest contributions is the Ruby Campground trail in St. Clair County which they help build and maintain. Those who have ridden there know how the trail has gotten better year after year. Credit for that improvement goes right to Team Sandbag.



Photo by Bryan Mitchell/mountainbikephotographer.com



Photo by TENMILEMEDIA / HANS NYBERG / WWW.TENMILEMEDIA.COM

The Team has also been instrumental in bringing races to Ruby, including a NORBA race every July as well as a Collegiate Regional Mountain bike race.

Other Team contributions include sponsoring a section of the Wadhams to Avoca Rail Trail; fundraising for the Justin L. Evans Memorial Fund; and the Sheriff's Re-Cycle for Kids program.

How does one get on the team? "All are welcomed to apply, according to Sandbag's Todd Powers. There's a fee which helps cover costs like the Team clothing. Team members also get perks from Team sponsors. But don't wait around to apply. The deadline for the 2007 team is January 31st, 2007.

Of course the Team can't get it all done without sponsors. Sandbag sponsors help with trail day materials, signs, team banners, as well as food at all the races and trail days.

The Team Sandbag Title sponsor is Bicycle & Fitness Barn in Port Huron.

Premier sponsors include:

- Speedy Markets
- Maxxis
- TEMO Sunrooms
- Image Authentics
- Power Roofing
- Ruby Campground
- Grace Performance
- Thomas Chiropractic
- C & Z Specialists
- Works Auto Wash



Associate sponsors include the Raven Coffeehouse, Special Pet Care Services, Sled-parts.com, the Ugly Duckling Saloon, and Ten Mile Media.

You can find more information on their web site at www.TeamSandbag.com or by sending them an email at info@teamsandbag.com

Chapter Chatter

Southeast Chapter News

The quarterly meeting was held on 11/15/06 at Jimi's in Royal Oak. Joy Foy (VP) reported that we have recorded 3185 hours of trail work in the SE Chapter this year. Some trails have not reported their hours, so make sure to get your hours into Joe. Below is more information from the meeting.

Trail Updates:

Addison- Park and planners are still reviewing new sections. There is discussion about building a trail connector between Bald Mountain and Addison. There are plans to get carsonite signs at Addison.

Bald Mountain- Still needs a Trail Coordinator. Bald Mountain will be involved in the connector.

Bloomer- Some switchbacks and descending turns need work.

Commerce- Trail is in good shape. There is some formal document with the township to have stunts for freeriding.

Highland- Work is needed cutting low trees in the C loop.

Island Lake Recreation Area- Two reroutes are done and the third is being planned. There is a meeting scheduled about the switchback on the blue loop to use the rolling terrain versus flat area without losing or adding too much trail. The bridge and crossing by the railroad will each need a feasibility study. There is discussion on whether it is privately owned and leased by the rail company. The trail ranger is on winter hiatus, so please move anything blocking the trail.

Lakeshore/Novi- The city contributed 3 yards of crushed limestone to fix the trail where needed. In October, the pump track opened. It is still being tweaked. There will be a trail day in the spring.

Milford- There is a new trailhead. The trail is now 4.7 miles. There is a two way bridge. The TC is working on signage. Come ride it- it is technical with Hermann's Humper, the historic Hippy Bowl and lots of vertical which has great climbing and views.

Munson- There are lots of leaves on the trail now, but winter night riding is ongoing. There will be a December holiday ride.

Orion Oaks- This is another new trail with lots of climbing. Official mileage still being determined

Rouge- Trail is complete from Tireman north to Joy (west side of River), and flagging has begun on the east side of the river for the return from Joy back to Tireman. Flagging north of Joy will begin after this return leg is completed.

Stony Creek- The skills park project is in progress; estimates on stunts and funding are being collected. The pump track is going to be 370 feet long; the skills area will be a couple of acres near the meadow area from the west branch beach area.

Maybury - Guest speaker at the meeting was Thomas Bissett, the DNR Manager from Maybury. The winter trail is a foot in the door to show that a trail can have success in winter with responsible trail use. No one expects 100% compliance, as there will be some trail damage or drive over. But if we can show we've had responsible use, 1.5 miles, and then show good examples with responsible relationship with user groups. A state park is revenue based not tax dollars, so user fees keep them alive. The rangers will be monitoring the trail over winter to see what happens. Then, they have to go to the District Supervisor to let her know what happened. There will be a report card after the winter season. Actual data like pictures before and after to back up measurements will be available in official Michigan documents. He said we can't guarantee five miles next year even with a successful year now, but it will be closed next year if this year has damage.

MMBA Chapter Realignment discussion:

There was a discussion on the proposal changing the borders of the Southeast and PLRA chapters to make chapters that are more equal in size and membership. The proposed border would be Woodward starting in downtown Detroit, Northeast to M-59, then west on M59. The meeting included members of the PLRA chapter, so that members of each chapter could ask questions and make any comments. The next step is a meeting by the State Board to discuss and vote upon the proposal. If passed, then both Chapter Presidents would meet with the State Board President and Executive Director to work out the details of new elections and the dividing of the chapter's funds. The hope is, if this is approved by the board, to have new elections before the Annual Meeting, so that the new chapters will be in place, and the new chapter presidents will be in place for the first meeting of the 2007 State Board.

Mid-State Chapter News

The City of Adrian Parks & Rec. Dept. along with the Mid-state chapter of the MMBA will be holding the annual spring Heritage Park race on May 12th.

I would like to thank the following companies for their generous donations to our chapter this past year and for those who have already jumped aboard for the 2007 season: SRAM Corporation, Tifosi Optics, MRP, Kryptonite, Santa Cruz, Krank Dirtwear, Hayes, Profile Design (Titec and

Bellwether), and Headsweats. Their donations will be used for Mid-State events that will be held during the upcoming season. We will also reward our volunteers for their efforts.

ALRO Plastics (a division of ALRO Steel) has generously donated plastic material which will be used to update signage at all of the Mid-State chapter trails. We really appreciate their donation to our chapter. Thank you.

The Mid-State Chapter will kick off the riding season on April 29th with our annual picnic. The picnic will again be held at Burchfield Park in Holt starting at 11:00am and running throughout the day. I am planning on contacting area bike shops to see if they are interested in having bike demos as part of the event. Any interested shops may e-mail me at jake_p5@comcast.net.

Our annual meeting will be held on Sunday January 14th, 2007. It will be at the Hunt Club in Jackson at 2:00pm. 2007 chapter elections will be held at this time. I would like to discuss chapter events for the year and how we can increase our membership base. Last year some of us discussed meet and greets at local trailheads I would like to revisit this idea. I would really like to see a more active member base if you can not make it to the meeting please e-mail me with your ideas and/or concerns so that I can address them at the meeting.

Lincoln Brick Park update, as some of you know during the meeting with Eaton County parks the park officials declined the proposal for mountain bike trails at Lincoln Brick. Instead the park board offered an alternative hoping for a more family friendly trail system. Their thought was to put trails in at Fox Park, which is more of standard, relatively flat, Michigan XC terrain. Currently, we are not pushing forward with this effort due to lack of volunteers with the project. If there is someone within the chapter who feels they would like to take on the role of trail coordinator please contact me.

The trails at Ionia were transferred back to Western chapter since we could not secure a trail coordinator this was in hopes that it would finally receive the attention that it needs.

On October 7th, Gregg Iddings and the Mid-State Chapter held a Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day at Heritage Park in Adrian. I would like to thank everyone who attended the event. The day was absolutely beautiful for riding.

We are still in need of someone who can update our web page it would be nice to keep it up to date with current photos, trail information, meeting minutes, etc... If there is anyone interested please contact me.

We still have several of the new Mid-State T-shirts available. Sizes available are youth S, M, and L and adult S, M, L, XL, and 2X in black. We also have S and M in purple. Contact info for Mid-State MMBA: jake_p5@comcast.net
Mid-State Message board - www.onfal.com



Congratulations to Collin Morlock on winning a brand new Gary Fisher Cake 2 full suspension bike at the Addison Oaks race on Sunday. It was Collin's first mountain bike race ever and he won his race as well. He asked his parents if they could stop by OnTwoWheels in Jackson on the way home to turn in the certificate and claim the bike. The shocked look on Collin's mom's face when we announced her son's name was priceless.

Thank you Gary Fisher Bicycles for the four great bikes you let us giveaway at the CPS races this year.





Worst Day of the Year Ride!!!

Date: Sunday, January 21st
Start Location: Kerrytown Farmer's Market, 315 Detroit Street, Ann Arbor.

The weather outside is frightful, but a bike ride is so delightful. Bundle up & show your colleagues, friends & family how crazy you really are

by joining us on a festive, wacky, winter ride around Ann Arbor. Polar Bear Ride, 40 miles, start time: 1:30; Reindeer Ride, 12 miles, Start time: 2:00; Snowshoe Hare Ride 6 miles, start time: 2:30. Prizes awarded at the after party to the biker riding with the largest stuffed animal & the rider with the most outrageous costume. You'll also be able to test your skills at bike trivia! See www.getdowntown.org. No entry fee, but please RSVP by January 16th so we have enough food at the after party.

Those who RSVP to erica@annarborchamber.org or 734-214-0100 will be rewarded with a goodie bag.

Ann Arbor Bike Winter

Biking through the winter is invigorating and it's a great way to beat those winter blues, stay fit throughout the winter months, and save money! It's really quite simple, with the proper gear and a little determination, you can continue to enjoy bicycling year round. However, we know that making the transition from being a "fair-weather" biker can seem a little daunting, so we've developed some workshops and social gatherings to help boost your confidence and harness the knowledge and energy of our local bike enthusiasts. Check out the Ann Arbor Bike Winter line-up of events at www.getdowntown.org or call 734-214-0100



Anyone who knows Robert Herriman, knows he rides a superhuman amount every year. In the first week of December he crossed the 13,000 mile mark -- and most of those were on a mountain bike. And as this photo shows, Robert races often too. He finished second to John Meyers in the CPS Elite category.

In Memory of Dave Fawley:

Rest In Peace, November 3, 2006

The world lost a special person this year, Dave Fawley, owner of Imperial Bike Shop in Saline, Michigan. Biking was just one of his passions, but he was well-known for his expertise and enthusiasm when it came to bike maintenance and biking in general. Many friends of Dave Fawley posted their thoughts on various web sites. Here is a collection of those thoughts.



"I was friends with Dave for about 14 years. I would like to say that Dave was a true friend. He was always willing to go the extra mile to help anyone out. He loved people. No matter if it was your first time walking in the store or if you were in there every once in a while, he welcomed you with open arms. It was always easier for me to go to the shop on the weekends to visit. I would stop in before lunch. He made me feel at home in the shop when he was there. Kind of like an extended family member. If I ever had a question about something on my car, he would always say stop by the house and look at it. I will miss those days of stopping in at the shop to say "Hello." I will always remember him as a great friend. If you knew him stop by the myspace page that was created for him. Add him as a friend and let's never forget him."

www.myspace.com/davefawley

"Dave started working at a Livonia bike store when he was 15 years old. Then he then went on to a Northville store to manage; then on to Farmington Hills and then on to Walled Lake. He later went to Saline to manage a store and bought it 2 years ago. David loved to bike. He took the kids in the family biking. They used to think it was fun to scare the moms with pictures of the kids climbing and biking up hills. They would come back loaded in mud and smiling from ear to ear. I remember when David had been in a serious biking accident. You think this would deter him from riding again. Not Dave- he wanted to go riding more and ride harder. Dave had absolutely no fear in anything he did."

"Dave meant so much too many kids who hung out at the bike shop. The Saline community will be at a loss without him and the opportunities and mentoring Dave gave to the young people. He will be greatly missed, but always remembered."

"Several of us LTU students used to make weekly trips to hang out at the shop and blow off some LTU classes. He was always friendly and helpful, and got a lot of people excited about bikes."

"I worked across the street from the Imperial Bike Shop and later came to appreciate what a service he did for the community. Dave would take in any make/model/year bike and fabricate parts to get the bike back on the road. I had seen numerous clunkers that families brought in from garage sales, from along the side of the road, etc. and ask for Dave's help to get the family riding bikes. Dave would always cheerfully accept any project from a customer and then spend hours, if not days, working on the old bike. My window overlooked the bike shop and the wide array of bikes that Dave fixed was incredible. He fixed everything from a one speed bikes the one grandpa used to ride to the electric bikes. The story was often the same: the customer had taken the bike to xx shops and nobody could/would fix the bike, so they heard Dave could do it and brought it in to him."

"Last Xmas I was talking to Dave when a father came in with four used bikes and asked for Dave's help. The bikes were old and worn, and the guy did not have much money and was worried about the condition of the bikes for his kids' Christmas. Dave offered to find new tires and reflectors to spiff the bikes up and he would sell the parts at costs. Dave also said he would give him a great deal on labor since he was slow during Xmas. The father was pretty worried since he promised the kids new bikes and he could not afford new bikes. Dave just smiled, winked and said all was going to be ok and that the bikes would be better than new. Wal-Mart cannot tune a bike like his shop. Mechanically, I knew these would be great bikes!! Dave told me numerous times he enjoyed working with customers that needed a little help to get into biking, and he hoped they would remember his shop when they bought a new bike."

"I have known this great man since I was in 6th grade; he helped me gain my biking experience and was there all the time. If it weren't for Dave, my father would have stricken my biking career down in a heartbeat. He was a father, mentor and teacher for me and always advocated what is righteous and honorable. When I called him almost every day after school to see what was up, and talk about bikes and bitch about my parent's inability to understand mountain biking like we did, he always told me to respect them no matter what. I loved the shop, the smell of it, the sounds of pressurized air shooting through metal nozzles which Dave held in his calloused hands. If it weren't for him, I would not be riding today. To his family I gave my deepest condolences and prayers. May all of our love and care be given to you in these dark hours."

"Dave was very important to his family and right now he is showing us how much he loves us by bringing all of his friends together. He talked about each and everyone of you. And by all of you being here for us, it is showing us all that Dave is still here taking care of us. All I ask is to please keep him alive in some way so that his memory will not fade from you hearts."

MEMBER SHOPS

The stores and services listed below are MMBA Members As of December 19th, 2006

Augusta

Custer Cyclery
269.731.3492

Baldwin

Pere Marquette River Lodge
231.745.3972
www.pmlodge.com

Commerce Twp.

Matt Watters RE/MAX 100
248-360-3900
www.mattwatters.net

Copper Harbor

Keweenaw Adventure Co, LLC
906.289.4303
www.keweenawadventure.com

Grosse Pointe Woods

American Cycle & Fitness
313.886.1968
www.americancycleandfitness.com

Lake Orion

Paint Creek Bicycles
248.693.9620
www.paintcreekbicycles.com

Livonia

Cycle to Fitness
734.266.8203
www.cycletofitness.com

Manistee

Bent Crank Bike Shop
231.723.4155

Northville

REI Northville
248.347.2100
www.rei.com/stores/northville

Okemos

Denny's Central Park Bicycles
517.349.8880
www.dennyscentralparkbikes.com

Pinckney

Speedtrain's Village Cyclery
734.878.0117
www.speedtrainsvillagecyclery.com

Plymouth

Trail's Edge Cyclery
734.420.1200
www.trails-edge.com

Pontiac

American Cycle & Fitness
248.333.7843
www.americancycleandfitness.com

Rochester

Rochester Bike Shop
248.652.6376
www.rochesterbikeshop.com

Royal Oak

American Cycle & Fitness
248.542.7182
www.americancycleandfitness.com

South Bend

Pro-Form Bike Shop
574.272.0129
www.proformbike.com

Sterling Heights

American Cycle & Fitness
586.979.7570
www.americancycleandfitness.com

Troy

REI Troy
248.689.4402
www.rei.com/stores/troy

Walled Lake

American Cycle & Fitness
248.960.1371
www.americancycleandfitness.com

Waterford

Cycletherapy
248.681.8600
www.ctbicycles.com

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www.e-caps.com

Gary Fisher/Trek USA

www.fisherbike.com

REI Northville

www.rei.com/stores/northville

REI Troy

www.rei.com/stores/troy

Gold Level (\$1,000 to \$4,999)

Michigan Sports & Fitness Magazine

www.outdoorathlete.com

Silver Level (\$500 to \$999)

American Cycle & Fitness

www.americancycleandfitness.com

Iceman Promotions, Inc.

www.iceman.com

Pere Marquette River Lodge

www.pmlodge.com

Trail's Edge Cyclery

www.trails-edge.com

Bronze Level (\$150 to \$499)

Cycle to Fitness

www.cycletofitness.com

Kona Bicycles

www.konaworld.com

Matt Watters RE/MAX 100

www.mattwatters.net

Rochester Bike Shop

www.rochesterbikeshop.com

As of December 19th, 2006



Basic Level (\$75 to \$149)

Ann Arbor Velo Club

www.aavc.org

Bent Crank Bike Shop

Boyne Country Convention & Visitor's Bureau

www.boynecountry.com

Cherry Capital Cycling Club

www.cherry-capital.com

Custer Cyclery

Cycletherapy

www.ctbicycles.com

Denny's Central Park Bicycles

www.dennyscentralparkbikes.com

Grayling Area Visitors Council

www.grayling-mi.com

Harbor Springs Cycling Club

www.harborspringscyclingclub.org

Hermann Construction, Inc.

Infiterra Sports, LLC

www.infiterasports.com

Keweenaw Adventure Co, LLC

www.keweenawadventure.com

Kisscross Events

www.kisscross.com

Michigan Trail Atlas

www.michiweb.com/trailatlas

O'Brien and Associates

Paint Creek Bicycles

www.paintcreekbicycles.com

Pro-Form Bike Shop

www.proformbike.com

Speedtrain's Village Cyclery

www.speedtrainsvillagecyclery.com

Sportcrafters

www.sportcrafters.com

Thunder Bay Trails Association

www.thunderbaytrails.org

As of December 19th, 2006

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J Andy & Melissa Zamora



"I thought you might like to see the MMBA should be well represented by the next generation. Carley is quite the messy eater and the MMBA bib comes in

MMBA

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime | \$500 |

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Bronze | \$150 |
- Additional corporate memberships/sponsorships are available. Call 248.288.3753 for details.

Make checks payable to:

Michigan Mountain Biking Association
5119 Highland Road, PMB 268
Waterford, MI 48327

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